Lydia Donovan

26 January 2016

My Essential Belief Statement

I have wanted to become a teacher since my sophomore year in high school. The biggest influence that lead me to this decision was when my first high school was shut down because of lack of students, and I was sent to another high school. I began to realize that I wanted to be a teacher when I started to look at the more opportunities I had in my new school. Teachers wanted to work with me and were happy to explain things to me if I did not get what they had taught at first. Compared to the teachers at my first high school they were a huge step up. At my first school, teachers knew that the school was closing so they did not bother to teach us and just passed us along. I want to be like the teachers of Groveton High School (my second high school) because I have seen from a firsthand experience both ends of the spectrum. My goal is to be the better teacher.

I selected secondary social studies because I knew that I could teach both high school and middle school, which is around the age when you make your biggest decisions. I want to help people and influence some of those big decisions. I selected social studies because I had two of the best social studies teachers, Mr. Lefebvre and Mrs. Shallow, in high school and I really want to be like them some day. They made social studies fun through many creative activities and projects that I thought were amazing.

I am a puppy and this will affect my methods and approaches because I will always try to create a warm and safe environment so it is easy for each student to learn. As a puppy I will also want to find what works best for everyone because I am sensitive to others and will show that I am supportive of every one of my students. I am also a clip board so I will be organized and have some sort of structure to the way that I will teach.

My expectations of teaching is that I will love it. I want to be able to make a positive difference in someone’s life the way that my teachers did for me. I expect that it will be hard at times to think of ways to help everyone learn. My fears are that I will not know everything that I am expected to know in my content area or as a teacher in general. I also fear that I will not connect with any of my students as a teacher and become the kind of teacher that I always thought was boring or just couldn’t teach me anything. Over all my biggest fear is failing myself and others around me.

Something that I expect to get out of CIA is to know how to connect with my students while also staying on task. I would also like to learn how to make a lesson plan that will be creative while also being fun to teach. I would also like to learn all of the basics on how I must set up my lessons in an effective way that will make my students want to learn.